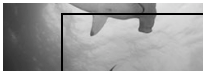


Sustainable Certification Criteria

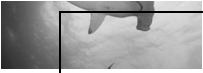
CODE	CRITERIA
10101	Water consumption is periodically measured and meter reading records are kept.
10102	There are written plans, with water usage and consumption reduction goals.
10103	Measures are taken to save water (for drinking, irrigation, swimming pools, etc.); when applicable, devices are installed to use water efficiently.
10104	Policies and measures to save water and use it efficiently are deployed to customers, employees, and owners.
10201	Energy consumption is periodically measured and meter reading records are kept.
10202	There are written plans, with energy usage and consumption reduction goals.
10205	Renewable energy sources are used, when applicable.
10207	Measures are taken to make the best use of natural lighting.
10208	Turning off equipment and lights when not in use is encouraged, through either communication or special devices.
10209	Equipment and devices are in place to use energy efficiently.
10210	When applicable, high performance and efficient vehicles (i.e., four-stroke boat motors) are used.
10211	Measures are adopted to prevent or minimize heat or cold losses in areas with room heating or air conditioning.
10301	Endangered species, or products thereof, or items stemming from unsustainable practices are not consumed, sold, traded, or displayed.
10302	No captive wildlife is kept, except for wildlife breeding farms, rescue or reintroduction, according to law and best practices.
10304	Artificial feeding of wildlife is prevented, except when it is done by sowing host or food plants.
10305	Measures are taken to prevent company noise and lighting from having an impact on wildlife.
10306	In sensitive areas, measures are taken to prevent pest and exotic species introduction.
10401	The company joins or supports conservation and management of some state-owned or private natural area located within company influence zone.
10601	Specific waste sorting actions have been identified and implemented.
10602	There is a program to minimize procurement of waste-producing inputs
10603	Waste of any kind is sorted to be reused or recycled, and its final disposal is verified, including construction waste.
10605	Company organic waste is used in some management program, such as composting, fertilizer manufacturing, mulching, farm animal feed, and others
10606	The company supports and joins recycling programs, if any.
10701	Both toilet and soapy wastewater are managed in such a way they do not affect public health nor pollute.
10703	No bodies of water are polluted with toxic, hazardous, or eutrophication products.
10704	Properly treated wastewater or effluents are reused, when feasible (for instance, in irrigation, cleaning, or other).
10705	Measures have been implemented for storm water adequate channeling, use, and disposal.
10706	Measures are adopted to minimize gas, pollutant spray, and strong odor emissions, as well as unpleasant noises.

CODE	CRITERIA
10707	The soil is not polluted with oil derivatives or persistent toxic compounds.
10708	Biodegradable and non-eutrophication cleaning and cosmetic products are used.
10801	Specific actions are taken on environmental education and other issues focusing on neighboring communities, customers, employees, and owners.
10802	Environmental education programs (committees, groups) existing in the area are supported, or their creation is encouraged.
10803	Responsible behavior is encouraged among visitors.
10804	Visitors are provided with information about the protected areas they are about to visit.
10805	Visitors are provided with information about nearby protected areas, and they are encouraged to visit them.
10806	Visitors are provided with information on native wildlife and plant species found in the area.
10807	Visitors are informed about water conservation and rational use practices, and they are encouraged to help.
10808	Visitors are informed about adequate waste management practices, and they are encouraged to help.
10809	Signs are posted to guide and educate both customers and employees.
10810	Visitors are informed about energy conservation and rational use practices, and they are encouraged to help.
20101	Neighboring community cultural, sports, and recreational activities are supported and disseminated, with stakeholders' prior consent.
20102	Visiting local businesses and communities is encouraged, when they wish it.
20201	The company joins or supports neighboring community development initiatives, with stakeholders' prior consent.
20202	Products and services from micro, small and medium local businesses are used, particularly sustainable ones.
20203	Local staff hiring and training is promoted, at all levels in the company.
20205	Making and selling handicrafts and other local products is encouraged.
20206	The company should have a widely known and feasible contingency plan that includes communities.
20302	No selling, trading, or displaying of archaeological pieces/objects should be allowed, unless the corresponding permits are obtained (in the case of displaying them).
20401	Specific measures are adopted to promote an understanding and respect of indigenous cultures and customs.
20405	Provision of basic services to neighboring communities is not to be jeopardized.
20406	Policies against sexual commercial exploitation, particularly of children and adolescents, are followed and deployed.
30101	A sustainability policy addressing environmental, socioeconomic, and service quality issues is in place.
30102	Environmental policy is made known to customers, employees, and owners.
30104	No social, gender, or racial discrimination of any kind is practiced or supported.
30106	The company has an ethical code for directors, customers, and employees, and behaves accordingly.
30107	The company has and implements a business plan that is suitable to its reality/scale, including environmental, sociocultural, and financial issues.



30204	There are programs and mechanisms in place to favor participatory approaches in managing and operating the business.
30301	The company complies with labor laws (both domestic and international) and social rights.

CODE	CRITERIA
30302	The company complies with environmental laws, standards, and regulations.
30303	The company complies with laws, standards, and regulations concerning the protection of site historical and cultural heritage.
30401	Regardless of service category, facilities are kept in perfect sanitation and cleaning conditions.
30402	Group size is appropriate and group members respect visited site regulations.
30403	There is a preventive maintenance program in place for all facilities, vehicles, and equipments.
30404	The necessary measures are adopted to ensure product and service quality.
30501	Clear, complete, and truthful information is given about provided product and service conditions.
30502	Promotional materials are truthful and do not promise more than can be reasonably expected by customers.
30503	Customers are provided with information on the site's history, culture, and natural environment.
30601	Policies are in place, and specific actions are implemented, regarding staff training on environmental issues related to company operations.
30602	Policies are in place, and specific actions are implemented, regarding staff training on sociocultural issues related to company operations.
30603	Policies are in place, and specific actions are implemented, regarding staff training on the company's quality system, and on operating issues.
30604	Policies are in place, and specific actions are implemented, regarding staff training on emergency response.
30701	Buildings are designed at the right scale and respecting the landscape.
30702	When applicable, facilities for people with special needs should be built.
30705	Environmentally-friendly building materials and techniques are used.
30801	Health and safety conditions required by employees, guests, and neighbors are provided.
30802	All measures needed to ensure customer safety during their tourist and recreational activities are taken.
30803	A contingency plan for environmental emergencies is in place.
30804	A contingency plan for health and safety emergencies is in place.
30805	Visitors are provided with information on the safety measures they should take while on the premises.
30807	Insurance policies and other customer and staff protection instruments are in place.
30809	Water used for human consumption, including ice, is demonstrably safe.
30813	Insect and rodent control is biological and environmentally friendly.
30814	There is a food handling program in line with best manufacturing practices.
30902	The company has a policy of favoring certified suppliers or suppliers following best environmental and social practices.
30903	Environmentally-friendly supplies are purchased, such as recycled or nontraditional paper, organic food, certified wood, and others.
31001	There is a record-keeping program or plan to identify and monitor (environmental and social) impacts generated by company operations.
31002	There is a mechanism to receive customer inputs, complaints, and comments, in addition to keeping a record of such inputs and their corresponding corrective actions.
31003	Both corrective and preventive management actions needed to ensure continuous improvement are monitored and critically analyzed.



Source: Sustainable Tourism Certification Network of the Americas. 2005. Notes from the 3rd Meeting of STCNA, September 2005, pp 38-40. URL:
<http://www.rainforestalliance.org/programs/tourism/certification/network-of-americas.html>